

Terms of Reference for the Peer Review of the Brazilian Guitarfish, Daggernose Shark, Graytail Skate, Narnownose Smoothhound, Striped Smoothhound, Argentine Angel Shark, and Spiny Angel Shark,

Status Review Report

Dear XXXX,

On July 8, 2013, the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) received a petition from WildEarth Guardians to list 81 species of marine organisms as endangered or threatened species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA) and to designate critical habitat. NMFS evaluated the information in the petition to determine whether the petitioner provided "substantial information" indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted, as required by the ESA.

Under the ESA, if a petition is found to present substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted, a status review shall be promptly commenced (16 U.S.C. §1533(b)(3)(A)). NMFS decided that the petition presented substantial scientific information indicating that listing may be warranted and that a status review was necessary.

The ESA stipulates that listing determinations should be made on the basis of the best scientific and commercial information available.

National Marine Fisheries Service is requesting an evaluation of the adequacy, appropriateness and application of data used in the Status Review documents.

1. In general, does the Status Review include and cite the best scientific and commercial information available on the species, its biology, stock structure, habitats, threats, and risks of extinction?
2. Are the scientific conclusions factually supported, sound, and logical?
3. Where available, are opposing scientific studies or theories acknowledged and discussed?
4. Are uncertainties assessed and clearly stated?

All information associated with the Status Review Report is to remain strictly confidential until the Status Review Report is posted to the NMFS/Office of Protected Resources website and/or the Federal Register by NMFS.

If you can provide a review of these status reviews, please let me know. We would request the reviews be complete in 2-3 weeks from you receiving the report.

Alternately, if you cannot provide a review can you please provide a list of scientists who may be able to review this document.

thank you for your consideration